



Atty. Dkt. No. 016887-1038

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Yukio HEMMI et al.
Title: NUCLEAR POWER PLANT
SYSTEM AND METHOD OF
OPERATING THE SAME
Appl. No.: 09/821,732
Filing Date: 03/30/2001
Examiner: J. Keith
Art Unit: 3641

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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Box NON-FEE AMENDMENT
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the restriction requirement set forth in the Office Action mailed December 12, 2002, Applicants hereby elect Group I, namely claims 1 – 18, drawn to an apparatus, for prosecution in the subject application.

In addition, the Examiner requested an election of species, to which the Applicants make the following elections:

Species IB identified in paragraph 7 (embodiment wherein the separating and the removing apparatus is placed in the pressure vessel);

Species A identified in paragraph 8 (the embodiment of Figure 2);

Species a identified in paragraph 9 (the embodiment wherein no electric or magnetic field is formed between the corrugated plates);

Species iii identified in paragraph 10 (the embodiment wherein the plate surface is cleaned then coated with ion exchanging material by spray method (n-p type coating)); and

as required in paragraph 11, embodiment wherein the ion exchange material consists of **TiO₂** and **ZrO₂** only. Claims 1-5, 8, 9 and 12 are readable on the elected species.

The above elections are made with traverse.

Applicant, of course, reserves the right to file one or more divisional applications covering the subject matter of the non-elected claims.

Receipt of the initial Office Action on the merits is awaited.

Respectfully submitted,

Date January 13, 2003

By Robert M. Hansen

FOLEY & LARDNER
Washington Harbour
3000 K Street, N.W., Suite 500
Washington, D.C. 20007-5143
Telephone: (202) 672-5387
Facsimile: (202) 672-5399

Robert M. Hansen
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 43,656